

CLAIMS

I claim:

1. A training device for use with a putter by a golfer for improving the technique of putting, the putter having a shaft and a head fixed at the lower end of the shaft, the device comprising:

an elongate member, having a first end and at least one second end, the first end being provided with a mounting adapted to be detachably mounted on the shaft such that the elongate member extends upwardly away from the shaft at an angle set by an angularly-adjustable part of the mounting; and

contact means at the second end of the elongate member and adapted to contact an appropriate part of the anatomy of the golfer;

wherein the elongate member and/or said mounting are adjustable so that the elongate member extends for a predetermined distance and at a predetermined angle so that the contact means contacts an appropriate part of the anatomy of the golfer in such a way that, when the golfer executes a correct putting stroke, the contact means remains in contact with that part of the golfer's anatomy throughout the whole of the swing but, if the stroke is not correct, the contact means either loses contact, or moves across, or presses harder into the anatomy of the golfer.

2. A training device, as claimed in claim 1, wherein the contact means is provided by the second end of the elongate member.

3. A training device, as claimed in claim 1, wherein the contact means is provided by a body attached to the second end of the elongate member.

4. A training device, as claimed in claim 3, wherein the body is a ball made of resilient material.

5. A training device, as claimed in any preceding claim, wherein the mounting of the elongate member to the shaft of the putter comprises a clamp and hand operated means.

6. A training device, as claimed in any preceding claim, wherein the mounting of the elongate member to the shaft of the putter includes a ball joint or other means with similar degrees of freedom.

7. A training device, as claimed in any preceding claim, wherein at least one scale is provided on the angularly-adjustable part of the mounting so that the angle of attachment of the elongate member relative to the putter shaft can be noted.

8. A training device, as claimed in any preceding claim, wherein the length of the elongate member is adjustable, by means of a telescopic portion thereof.

9. A training device, as claimed in claim 8, wherein the telescopic portion is provided with scale markings so that the length of the elongate member can be noted.

10. A training device, as claimed in any preceding claim, wherein the elongate member is a rod or tube having a single second end.

11. A training device, as claimed in any of claims 1 to 9, wherein the elongate member is of a construction providing more than one second end each provided with a respective contact means to contact a respective part of the anatomy of the golfer.

12. A training device, as claimed in claim 3 or 4, wherein the body attached to the or each second end of the elongate member is removable and/or interchangeable.

13. A training device, as claimed in any of claims 3 to 12, wherein the body is adapted to give a visual and/or audible indication when contact with the anatomy of the golfer has been lost.

14. A training device, as claimed in claim 13, wherein the means of said indication indicates both loss of contact and excessive contact pressure with the anatomy of the golfer.

15. An assembly comprising a putter and a training device as claimed in any preceding claim.

16. A method of practicing the technique of putting using the device as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 14 and comprising the steps of:

mounting the device on a shaft of a putter;

adjusting the mounting so that the elongate member of the device extends away from the putter and towards one's body so that the or each contact means lightly contacts an appropriate body part; and

swinging the putter in a putting stroke in such a way that the contact means remains in contact with the body part without moving or pressing hard against the body part.